

DEVICE TO COUNT AND DISPENSE ARTICLES -

Abstract of the Disclosure

A singulating and counting device includes a bulk housing for storing a
5 plurality of substantially identical articles, an exit channel, and in the exit channel,
forwardly- and rearwardly-directed jet apertures, each of which is fluidly connected to
a positive pressure source. A forwardly-directed jet generated by the positive
pressure source through the forward jet aperture can accelerate singulated articles in
the exit channel, thereby increasing the interval between individual articles and
10 rendering them more easily and accurately counted. A rearwardly-directed jet
generated by the positive pressure source through the rearwardly-directed jet aperture
can cause articles in the exit channel to return to the housing. A controller
operatively connected with the pressure source(s) selectively controls the application
of positive pressure to the aforementioned apertures to induce or halt singulation of
15 the articles; the controller may be operatively associated with a sensor that detects and
counts articles passing through the exit channel.